

**Remarks**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims in view of the above amendments and the remarks set forth below. Claims 1-20 remain in the application. Claims 1, 11 and 15 are amended. Claims 2-10, 12-14 and 16-20 were previously presented.

**35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1-6 and 11-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Griffiths (US 6,262,776 B1). For a reference to anticipate a claimed invention, each and every element of the claim must be found in the reference. Claim 1 is amended to recite a “system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using audio and video clocks that are locked, the system comprising...a component that determines an initial audio input buffer level...a component that determines an amount of drift in the initial audio input buffer level and adjusts the audio and video clocks to maintain the initial audio input buffer level if the amount of drift reaches a first predetermined threshold...and a component that measures a displacement of a video signal associated with the audio signal in response to the adjusting of the audio and video clocks and operates to negate the measured displacement of the video signal if the measured displacement reaches a second predetermined threshold.” Support for the amendment is found in figure 1 and page 4, lines 26-27.

Griffiths appears to disclose a system and method for maintaining synchronization between audio and video by playing video frames early, dropping video frames or delaying the playing of video frames. (See, e.g., col. 12, lns. 28-40 and 56-64; col. 15, lns 39-42; col. 16, lns. 38-45) In other words, Griffiths appears to only disclose adjusting the display of video data and not adjusting the processing of audio data in order to maintain synchronization between audio and video data. In contrast to the Griffiths, amended claim 1 recites, inter alia, a “system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed **using audio and video clocks that are locked**...a component that determines an amount of drift in the initial audio input buffer level and **adjusts the audio and video clocks to maintain the initial audio input buffer level** if the amount of drift reaches a first predetermined

threshold...and a component that measures a displacement of a video signal associated with the audio signal **in response to the adjusting of the audio and video clocks** and operates to negate the measured displacement of the video signal if the measured displacement reaches a second predetermined threshold.” (Emphasis added).

As a result, Griffiths does not contain the “system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed **using audio and video clocks that are locked**...a component that determines an amount of drift in the initial audio input buffer level and **adjusts the audio and video clocks to maintain the initial audio input buffer level** if the amount of drift reaches a first predetermined threshold...and a component that measures a displacement of a video signal associated with the audio signal **in response to the adjusting of the audio and video clocks** and operates to negate the measured displacement of the video signal if the measured displacement reaches a second predetermined threshold” elements of amended claim 1. Since amended claim 1 contains at least one element that is missing from Griffiths, applicants respectfully propose that the rejection for anticipation is overcome.

Dependent claims 2-6 being dependent on and further limiting amended independent claim 1, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection for anticipation is overcome.

Amended independent claim 11 contains elements similar to amended independent claim 1 and should be allowable for the reasons discussed above. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection for anticipation is overcome.

Dependent claims 12-14 being dependent on and further limiting amended independent claim 11, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection for anticipation is overcome.

Amended independent claim 15 contains elements similar to amended independent claim 1 and should be allowable for the reasons discussed above. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection for anticipation is overcome.

Dependent claims 16-20 being dependent on and further limiting amended independent claim 15, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection for anticipation is overcome.


**35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Griffiths. Claims 7-10 depend from amended claim 1. Claims 7-10 should therefore be allowable for the same reasons as discussed for claims 1 as well as for the additional recitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claims 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at (818) 260-3727, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fees, other than those discussed above, are believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,



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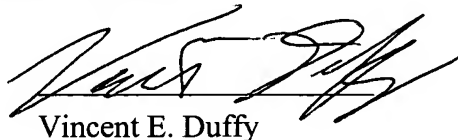
October 2, 2006

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

10/2/06

date



Vincent E. Duffy